

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

OCA 86-3463

15 OCT 1986

The Honorable James C. Miller, III
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Miller:

This is in response to your request for the views of the Director of Central Intelligence on enrolled bill H.R. 4952, the Electronic Communication Privacy Act of 1986.

The Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency have been concerned about the possible adverse impact on foreign intelligence collection activities of certain provisions contained in the Electronic Communication Privacy Act. These provisions impose criminal penalties for accessing electronic communication systems without the authorization of the owner of such systems. We informed the intelligence oversight committees and the House and Senate Judiciary Committees of our concerns, and they responded by explicitly exempting foreign intelligence activities involving foreign electronic communication systems.

The inclusion of the intelligence exemption eliminates the concerns the Intelligence Community had with the bill. I therefore can recommend Presidential approval of this legislation.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

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(14 October 1986)

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